

New Shoreham Town Council – Town Manager Work Session
Town Hall, Old Town Road
Wednesday, December 2, 2009
4:00 p.m.

Present: First Warden Kimberley H. Gaffett, Second Warden Raymond J. Torrey, Council members Richard P. Martin, Peter B. Baute and Kenneth C. Lacoste. Also present were Town Manager Nancy Dodge, Finance Director Amy Land and for the recording of minutes, Deputy Town Clerk Millicent McGinnes.

First Warden Gaffett called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

Discuss Davidson House Improvements

Block Island Health Services Executive Director Monty Stover and BIHS physician Dr. Paul Mann were present.

Monty Stover stated that the Davidson House is on the Medical Center property, is owned by the Town and is currently being used as physician housing. He explained that BIHS's goal was to do some improvements to the house within the current footprint to make it more livable. The improvements were explained as follows:

- Convert the small third bedroom into a master bath.
- Winterize the screened porch.
- Modify the kitchen by moving the washer and dryer to a closet and extending the kitchen counter.
- Install storm windows.

Monty Stover noted that he had advertised for design/build bids. He stated that he would forward final specifications to the Town once they are available.

Ms. Gaffett stated that she thought it was very important for an energy audit to be performed on the Davidson House prior to renovations.

Finance Report

Receive and Act on October Finance Report

Finance Director Amy Land reviewed the October 2009 Finance Report with the Town Council. The following items were highlighted:

- The tax revenue is strong and collections are where they should be.
- The second quarter installment of the motor vehicles tax from the state has been received. The state has already informed towns that they will not be remitting the fourth quarter installment.
- License fee income is meeting budget.
- Shellfish license income is up.
- Harbors mooring numbers are not far off from last year even though there was poor weather this year.
- Interest and investment income is down; only meeting 6% of budget.
- Hotels and meals tax is flat from last year.

Ms. Gaffett made a motion to accept the finance report. Dr. Baute seconded the motion and it carried.

5 Ayes (Gaffett, Torrey, Martin, Lacoste, Baute) 0 Nays

Receive Quarterly Municipal Deficits Report from Finance Director

Act on Loan Resolution

It was noted that the Municipal Deficits Report and loan resolution both require Council action and should be addressed at a Council meeting instead of a work session. Since it is still timely, the items will be placed on the December 7th Council meeting agenda.

Report of the Town Manager – Administration and Public Works

Town Manager Dodge reported the following:

- Old Harbor Dock Project:
 - Narragansett Dock Works signed the contract.
 - Samuel Bird has been hired as Clerk of the Works.
 - Preconstruction meetings have commenced.

- The initial bond was incorrect. It will be corrected before anything goes forward.
- A survey is scheduled for December 10th to document all existing conditions in and around the area.
- A safety plan will be drafted.
- Construction should begin in January, with an end date of April 15, 2010.
- A dredging schedule is in the works.
- Commercial boats should be able to remain through the south dock construction.
- December 11, 2009 Deep Water Wind will be in front of the PUC again negotiating a power purchase price with National Grid. Town Attorneys and consultants are following the process closely.
- Engineer Jim Geremia will be out on December 4th to review Old Town Road (and possibly Chapel Street) for resurfacing in late spring, and to examine the Beach House septic system which is having problems.
- A grant from the Emergency Management Agency for updating the Hazard Mitigation Plan was received and the Plan will be updated accordingly.
- A judgment that quiets title on the downtown lot Plat 6, Lot 147 was recorded. If it is not appealed, then the purchase of the property (approved by the voters summer 2008) should go forward.
- There is a settlement agreement for the Sprague Farm gravel pit which includes a closure plan. The documents are being drawn up.
- The state is out cleaning catch basins today.
- The state has not yet addressed the Corn Neck Road drainage problem.
- Next summer, Race Week is scheduled for June 20th – June 26, 2010.
- A sailboat has run aground on Corn Neck Road. The Harbormaster is contacting the owner about removal.

Discussion ensued regarding the new fire alarms. Ms. Dodge noted the following:

- RB Allen is the only distributor in Rhode Island who sells the required Digitize radio box.
- RB Allen will be on island December 7th and 8th and will meet with business owners. Volume discounts may be discussed.
- RB Allen donated a fire panel to the North Light.
- The receivers are in. The Town's radio boxes are going in and there should be a signal soon.

Receive Personnel Report

Mr. Martin made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1) at 5:25 p.m. Mr. Torrey seconded the motion and it carried.

5 Ayes (Gaffett, Torrey, Martin, Lacoste, Baute) 0 Nays

Mr. Lacoste recused himself and left the meeting.

Dr. Baute made a motion to go out of closed session at 6:43 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Martin and carried.

4 Ayes (Gaffett, Torrey, Martin, Baute) 0 Nays 1 Recusal (Lacoste)

Ms. Gaffett made a motion to seal the minutes of the closed session. Mr. Torrey seconded and the motion carried.

4 Ayes (Gaffett, Torrey, Martin, Baute) 0 Nays 1 Recusal (Lacoste)

With no further business Mr. Martin made a motion to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Dr. Baute and carried unanimously.

Millicent McGinnes
Deputy Town Clerk

Submitted: December 10, 2009

Approved: December 16, 2009